



# CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

## Dear Customer,

*The City of Milpitas is pleased to provide our consumers with pertinent information about the quality of our drinking water. This annual water quality report tells you where our water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other information. The safety of your water supply has remained our top priority and we will notify you immediately if there is any reason for concern about our water. We are providing this information to you so you can make informed choices about your water supply.*

In 2004, the City's Utility Maintenance staff collected over 2,500 drinking water samples for which about 7000 tests were analyzed in State-certified laboratories. The water was tested for various constituents including turbidity, coliform bacteria, odor, color, total chlorine and pH. Milpitas is proud to report that the water provided to you meets all water quality standards of the State Department of Health Services (DHS) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

### Safeguarding Water Supply and System

Milpitas has raised the level of security to protect our system against possible terrorist attack. We have coordinated with law enforcement agencies, public health officials and other water utilities to ensure safety of our water system. Routine water sampling and security monitoring are among the programs we maintain.

### Water Sources

In 2004, the City supplied an average of 10.9 million gallons of water per day to approximately 15,800 homes and businesses in Milpitas for indoor and outdoor use. An additional 0.89 million gallons per day of recycled water was used for landscape irrigation primarily in the industrial areas of the City.

Milpitas purchases about 65 percent of its drinking water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and 35 percent from the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD). In addition, we distribute recycled water for limited outdoor use. The water from SFPUC is imported from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir located in Yosemite National Park, and supplemented with water from the Alameda watershed treated at the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant.

The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is the largest reservoir in the SFPUC system and is filled by spring snowmelt that flows down the Tuolumne River. The reservoir provided approximately 94 percent of SFPUC's total water supply in 2004. The Alameda watershed, located in Alameda and Santa Clara Counties, contributes



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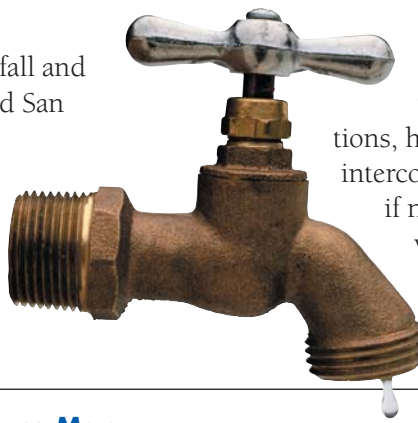
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surface water supplies by storing rainfall and runoff in two reservoirs, Calaveras and San Antonio. This surface water source is blended with groundwater from Sunol Filter Galleries near the Town of Sunol. The SFPUC treats and filters these local water sources prior to delivery to its consumers.

The SCVWD provides treated surface water from two water treatment plants. The surface water is mainly imported from the South Bay Aqueduct, Lake Del Valle, and San Luis Reservoir which all draw water from the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta watershed. The SCVWD's local water sources include Anderson and Calero Reservoirs. Milpitas normally receives water from the Penitencia Water Treatment Plant and occasionally from the Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant if Penitencia is out of service. In 2004, Milpitas received water from the Santa Teresa

Plant in February, November and December, when the Penitencia Plant was shut down for improvements.

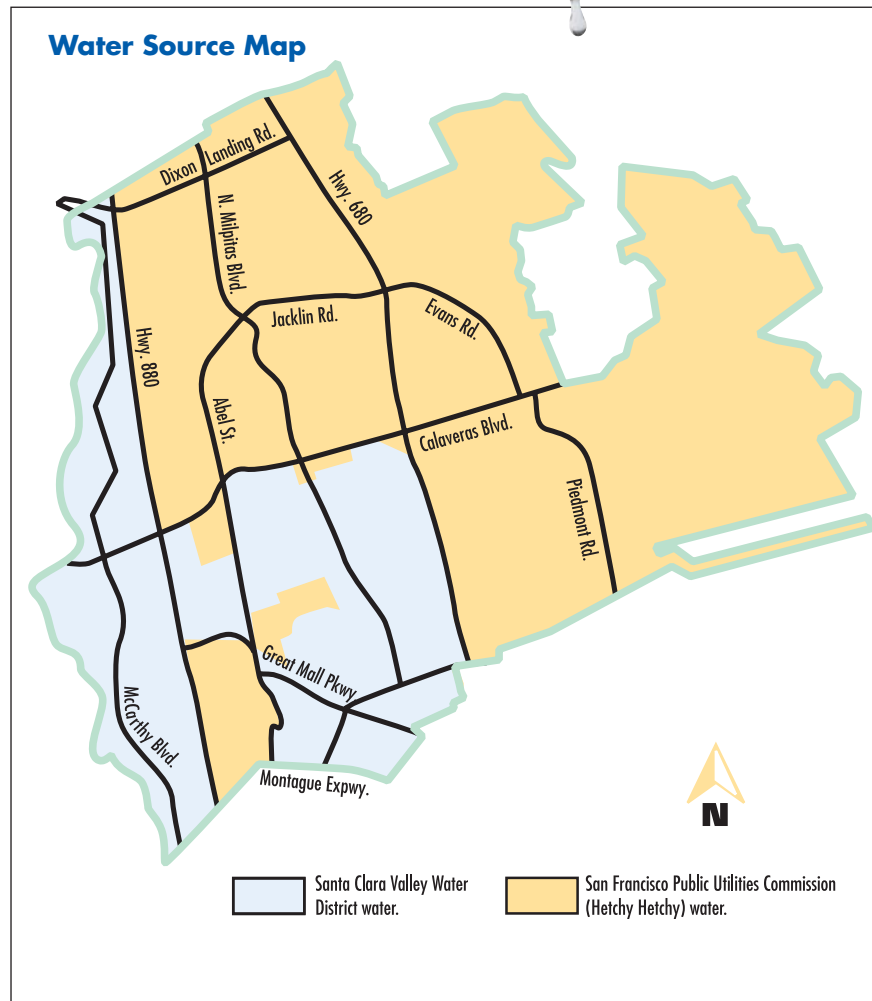


The SFPUC and the SCVWD supplies are not blended under normal operating conditions, however, the service areas can be physically interconnected to provide emergency water supply if needed. With minor exceptions, SFPUC water is provided to residential areas of the City and the District water is distributed to industrial areas. Please refer to the Water Source Map to see the water service areas.

Emergency interties exist with Alameda County Water District to the north and San Jose Water Company to the south. The Pinewood Well, located in the southern portion of the City, is available as an emergency water supply.

The SFPUC protects the natural water resources by continuously monitoring Hetch Hetchy watershed weather conditions, water turbidity levels, microbial contaminants and aqueduct disinfectant levels. The SFPUC complies with monitoring and reporting require-

ments to protect its watersheds. A 2004 annual update on the Watershed Control Program and Sanitary Survey



## Better Landscape Management

**The Santa Clara Valley Water District offers FREE landscape evaluations to help businesses better manage their water use. The Irrigation Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) offers FREE landscape evaluations to help businesses save water and money. Studies show potential savings of up to \$1,000 per acre of landscape. Call at (408) 265-2607 ext. 2257.**



describes the watersheds and water supply system, identifies potential sources of contamination in the watersheds, discusses the existing and recommended watershed management practices that protect water quality, and summarizes the water quality monitoring conducted.

The SFPUC also conducts a sanitary survey of local watersheds every five years. The 2000 assessment showed that SFPUC watersheds have very low levels of contaminants, and those contaminants found are associated with wildlife and, to a limited extent, human recreational activity.

The SCVWD completed a vulnerability analysis in December 2003. The SCVWD's source waters are vulnerable to potential contamination from a variety of land use practices, such as agricultural and urban runoff, recreational activities, livestock grazing, and residential and industrial development. The imported sources are also vulnerable to wastewater treatment plant discharges, seawater intrusion, and wildland fires in open space areas. In addition, local sources are also vulnerable to potential contamination from commercial stables and historic mining practices. No contaminant associated with any of these activities has been detected in the SCVWD's treated water. The water treatment plants provide multiple barriers for physical removal and disinfection of contaminants. For additional information, visit the SCVWD website at [www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org).

The City of Milpitas completed a drinking water source assessment of the Pinewood Well (emergency backup source) in January 2000. Following DHS procedures, the well is classified as vulnerable due to a nearby dry-cleaning establishment and the local sewer collection

system. However, the well water is protected by clay layers, which prevent contaminants from entering the water supply. The well water met all drinking water standards. For information on how to obtain copies of the assessments please call (408) 586-3345.

## Water Quality – A National Priority

The City's water supply meets all safe drinking water standards. In the last few years, considerable publicity about chemicals and organisms, such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites, in municipal water supplies has become more prevalent. Some of these are discussed in more detail below.

### What You Should Know About *Cryptosporidiosis* and *Giardiasis*

*Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* are parasitic microbes found in most surface water supplies throughout the U.S. and can pose a potential health threat.

If ingested, either may produce symptoms of nausea, diarrhea, stomach cramps, upset stomach, and slight fever. Some people are more vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* than others, especially those with compromised immune systems. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions. SFPUC tests regularly for *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* in both source and treated water supplies. Both were occasionally found at very low levels in the raw water, but not in the treated water, in 2004.

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## Get WET! (Water Efficient Technologies)

This program offers rebates to commercial and industrial water customers for the implementation of process and equipment changes, which reduce water usage and consequently sewer flows. Call (408) 945-3700, or visit [www.slowtheflow.com/whatswet.html](http://www.slowtheflow.com/whatswet.html).

# Use Water Wisely... It's a Way of Life!

Water is a precious resource vital to the existence of all living things. By conserving water, you will not only reduce your utility bills, you will help protect and preserve the environment for future generations. Less water used indoors means less treated water released into the Bay. Too much fresh or treated water can damage the delicate salt marsh habitat of the California clapper rail and salt marsh harvest mouse.

## Water Conservation Programs

The City has several programs to assist consumers in saving water and becoming more aware of how to protect the environment:

### FREE Water-Saving Devices for Your Home

The City provides FREE low flow shower-heads and kitchen/ bathroom faucet aerators that help conserve water and decrease wastewater flows. These items can be picked up at City Hall, or mailed upon request by calling (408) 586-2605.

### Clothes Washer Rebate Program

Buy a high efficiency clothes washer and receive a rebate from the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The rebate amount varies by type of machine (Residential or Commercial) and efficiency rate. For information call (408) 265-2607 (ext.2554).

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## Water Quality

The SCVWD also tests for *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* in the source water supplies on a monthly basis. In 2004, *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* were not detected in SCVWD's source water.

### Trihalomethanes (THM)

THMs are a byproduct of the water treatment process. They are formed when natural organic material, such as the decaying vegetation commonly found in lakes and reservoirs, reacts with chlorine used to disinfect the water. This reaction produces "disinfection by-products," the most common of which are THMs. Some people who use water containing THMs in excess of MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The federal Disinfectant/ Disinfectant By-product Rule (D/DBP Rule) that became effective on January 1, 2002, adopted a new drinking water standard for a group of five haloacetic acids (HAA5) and lowered the current standard for a group of four THMs. Like THMs, HAAs are by-products of water disinfection and are suspected carcinogens.

The USEPA allowed the SFPUC and its customers, including the City of Milpitas, a two-year extension (December 2004) to comply with the new standard if capital improvements are necessary to meet the new standard. To address this, the SFPUC has switched from chlorine to chloramine disinfection in February 2004 that has lowered the levels of THMs and HAAs.

The City complied with the extended standard of 100 ppb set by the USEPA for the two-year period. The City's system-wide running annual average for which the standard is required ranged from 60.3 to

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## Borrow Water Meters — Identify Conservation Opportunities

Businesses can borrow water meters from the City to help track water use and identify water conservation opportunities. There is a \$50 deposit per meter with a maximum 1-year loan period. Full deposit is returned upon verification that the meter is returned in proper working order. Call (408) 586-2605 for additional information.

For more information on water conservation visit our website at  
[www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/citydept/publicworks/waterconservation.htm](http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/citydept/publicworks/waterconservation.htm)



# Grow a Water Wise Garden

Outdoor water use accounts for over 50 percent of total residential water consumption. Here are some tips on how to have a water wise garden throughout the year!

- Use a hose with a shutoff valve for washing cars and watering plants.
- Turn off your sprinkler timers when rain is in the forecast. Only water early in the morning so water can soak in. Set irrigation timers to water before dawn.
- Water slowly in short, repeat cycles rather than one long application to avoid water runoff.
- Inspect your sprinkler system and repair leaks quickly.
- Choose plants (especially native plants) that are well suited to the soil, sunlight, and moisture conditions of the area. This reduces the need for fertilizers, pest control, and watering. And it saves money. A list of water wise plants can be found online at [www.valleywater.org/Water/Waterconservation/Inthehome/Water-wiseplantlist.shtml](http://www.valleywater.org/Water/Waterconservation/Inthehome/Water-wiseplantlist.shtml)
- Avoid using pesticides! Find out how to control pests in your garden the safe and less-toxic way.

For more gardening tips, call the Water Hotline at (408) 586-2605

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## Water Quality

80.9ppb. The results of the 32 individual samples collected in 2004 varied from 29.0 to 102.7 ppb. With the switch over to the new chloramine disinfectant in February 2004, the THM levels were reduced significantly, and the City complied with a revised running annual average standard of 80 ppb by December 2004 as required by the USEPA.

## Successful Implementation of Chloramine

The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) joined DHS and EPA in endorsing the use of chloramine as an alternative to chlorine in the residual disinfection of public drinking water supplies. The CCLHO concluded that chloramine protects public health by controlling exposure to waterborne organisms known to cause infectious diseases in humans, while at the same time lowering regulated disinfection byproducts.

In February 2004, the SFPUC successfully converted to chloramine disinfection of its drinking water. Chloramine is more stable and lasts longer in water than chlorine, and is helping to meet water quality regulations consistently. For certain sensitive uses, such as kidney dialysis, fish and amphibian tanks, and industrial processes, chloraminated water must be treated before use. For further information, visit the SFPUC website at [better.sfpuc.org](http://better.sfpuc.org).

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## City of Milpitas Information Request Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Milpitas, CA 95035

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the following FREE items: (check all that apply)

☐ Faucet Aerator (residents only)

☐ Washer Rebate Information

☐ Irrigation Technical Assistance

☐ Low Flow Showerheads

☐ Toilet Rebate Program

Program (Businesses only)

☐ Water Wise House Call Program

☐ Water Wise and less toxic Gardening Tips

**Return form to:**

City of Milpitas  
Utility Engineering Section  
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.  
Milpitas, CA 95035



# Water Quality Data

We are pleased to report all drinking water standards were met in 2004. The following tables list all the drinking water constituents that were detected during the 2004 calendar year. Many other constituents were monitored but were not detected in the water. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done between January 1 and December 31, 2004. The State allows less than annual monitoring for some other constituents since concentrations for these constituents do not vary significantly from year to year.

The tables also include information on Public Health Goals (PHGs). PHGs are levels of drinking water constituents that are set by the State Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). They are developed as goals because they are purely health-based objectives and may not be technically or economically feasible to achieve. None of the risk-management factors, such as analytical detection capability, treatment technology

available, benefits and costs, are considered in setting the PHGs. Thus, the PHGs are not enforceable as are the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

## Important Definitions for Understanding this Water Quality Report

**Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the USEPA.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically or technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs are set by the USEPA.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

**Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Variances and Exemptions:** State or USEPA permission to vary from an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other

## 2004 City of Milpitas Water Quality Data<sup>(1)</sup> (13)

DETECTED CONSTITUENTS	Unit	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range	Average (Maximum)	Typical Sources in Drinking Water		
MICROBIOLOGICAL								
Total Coliform, percentage of positive detected	%	> 5% positive	(0)	ND-0.78	ND	Naturally present in the environment		
ORGANIC CHEMICALS								
Total Trihalomethanes (SFPUC and SCVWD Service Areas)	ppb	80 <sup>(14)</sup>	NS	29.0-102.7 <sup>(15)</sup>	80.9 <sup>(15)</sup>	By-product of drinking water disinfection		
Total Haloacetic Acids (SFPUC and SCVWD Service Areas)	ppb	60	NS	17.0-59.2	29.0 <sup>(16)</sup>	By-product of drinking water disinfection		
INORGANIC CHEMICALS								
Chlorine Residual (SFPUC Service Areas)	ppm	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	0.33-3.80	2.0	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment		
Chlorine Residual (SCVWD Service Areas)	ppm	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	0.74-2.60	1.84	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment		
CONSTITUENTS WITH SECONDARY STANDARDS	Unit	SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water		
Color (SFPUC Service Areas)	unit	15	NS	<5	<5	Naturally-occurring organic materials		
Color (SCVWD Service Areas)	unit	15	NS	<5	<5	Naturally-occurring organic materials		
Odor (SFPUC Service Areas)	TON	3	NS	<1	<1	Naturally-occurring organic materials		
Odor (SCVWD Service Areas)	TON	3	NS	<1	<1	Naturally-occurring organic materials		
pH (SFPUC Service Areas)	Unit	NS	NS	7.44-9.91	9.03	Measure of hydrogen ion activity; determines acid content of water		
pH (SCVWD Service Areas)	Unit	NS	NS	6.96-8.74	7.4	Measure of hydrogen ion activity; determines acid content of water		
Turbidity (SFPUC Service Areas)	NTU	5	NS	<0.05-0.65	0.18	Soil run-off		
Turbidity (SCVWD Service Areas)	NTU	5	NS	<0.05-0.57	0.13	Soil run-off		
LEAD AND COPPER RULE <sup>(17)</sup>	Unit	AL	PHG	Range	90th Percentile <sup>(18)</sup>	Total # of sites sampled	#of sites exceeding AL	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Copper (SFPUC and SCVWD Service Areas)	ppb	1300	170	15-450	150	37	0	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (SFPUC and SCVWD Service Areas)	ppb	15	2	ND-15	3.4	37	0 <sup>(19)</sup>	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems

requirements which a water system must follow.

**Waiver:** State permission to decrease the monitoring frequency for a particular contaminant.

KEY	
<	= Less Than
ABS	= Centimeters-1
AL	= Action Level
ND	= Non-detect
NS	= No Standard
NTU	= Nephelometric Turbidity Units
ppb	= parts per billion
ppm	= parts per million
TT	= Treatment Technique
μmhos/cm	= micromhos/centimeter
μS/cm	= microSiemens/centimeter
TON	= Threshold Odor Number

## How Do Drinking Water Sources Become Polluted?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural

livestock operations, and wildlife.

- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can

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### 2004 SFPUC Water Quality Data <sup>(1)</sup> <sup>(11)</sup>

DETECTED CONSTITUENTS	Unit	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range	Average (Maximum)	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
<b>TURBIDITY<sup>(2)</sup></b>						
Unfiltered Hetch Hetchy Water	NTU	5 <sup>(3)</sup> (TT)	NS	0.28 - 0.46 <sup>(4)</sup>	(5) <sup>(5)</sup>	Soil run-off
Filtered Water - Sunol Valley WTP, max turbidity	NTU	1 (TT)	NS	-	(0.41)	Soil run-off
minimum percentage of time < 0.3 NTU	%	95 <sup>(6)</sup> (TT)	NS	99% <sup>(7)</sup>	-	Soil run-off
<b>ORGANIC CHEMICALS <sup>(8)</sup></b>						
Total Organic Carbon <sup>(9)</sup>	ppm	NS	NS	2.6 - 3.1	2.9	Various natural and manmade sources
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>						
Aluminum	ppb	1000	600	32 - 43	38	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppb	1000	2000	3-50	26	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride <sup>(10)</sup>	ppm	2	1	<0.1 - 0.14	<0.1	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>CONSTITUENTS WITH SECONDARY STANDARDS</b>						
	Unit	SMCL	PHG	Range	Average	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Chloride	ppm	500	NS	<3 - 44	8	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Iron	ppb	300	NS	<10 - 32	18	Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese	ppb	50	NS	<2-3	<2	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance	μS/cm	1600	NS	24 - 440	186	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	ppm	500	NS	<1 - 58	29	Leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	NS	29 - 171	100	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
<b>OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS</b>						
	Unit	AL	Range	Average		
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	NS	10 - 138	62		
Boron	ppb	1000	13-74	44		
Calcium	ppm	NS	3-27	15		
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	NS	7-145	66		
Magnesium	ppm	NS	<0.5 - 10	5.4		
Potassium	ppm	NS	0.3-2	1.0		
Silica	ppm	NS	5 - 8	6.0		
Sodium	ppm	NS	3 - 18	10		



## 2004 SCVWD Water Quality Data<sup>(1) (12)</sup>

DETECTED CONSTITUENTS	Unit	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Range	Average (Maximum)	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
<b>TURBIDITY (2)</b>						
Filtered Water - max turbidity	NTU	1 (TT)	NS	-	0.09	Soil run-off
minimum percentage of time < 0.3 NTU	%	95 <sup>(6)</sup> (TT)	NS	99.95-100% <sup>(7)</sup>	-	Soil run-off
<b>ORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>						
Total Organic Carbon <sup>(9)</sup>	ppm	TT	NS	1.52-2.46	2.03	Various natural and manmade sources
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>						
Aluminum	ppb	1000	600	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride <sup>(10)</sup>	ppm	2	1	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as NO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	45	45	3.0-4.0	3	Erosion of natural deposits, soil run-off
<b>CONSTITUENTS WITH SECONDARY STANDARDS</b>						
	Unit	SMCL				
Chloride	ppm	500	NS	33-79	75	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Conductivity	µmhos/cm	1600	NS	363-552	524	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate	ppm	500	NS	43.7-64.0	55.6	Leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	1000	NS	196-302	292	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
Zinc	ppm	5	NS	0.24-0.26	0.25	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits
<b>OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS</b>						
	Unit	AL	Range	Average		
1,1-Dichloropropane	ppm	NS	<0.5	<0.5		
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	NS	65-84	78		
Baygon	ppm	NS	<0.2	<0.2		
Boron	ppb	NS	100-300	200		
Bromide	ppm	NS	<0.05-0.06	0.06		
Calcium	ppm	NS	50-60	57		
Chlorate	ppm	NS	0.11-0.18	0.14		
Cobalt	ppm	NS	<1	<1		
Free Ammonia	ppm	NS	0.09-0.36	0.21		
Hardness	ppm	NS	82-111	107		
Lithium	ppm	NS	<20	<20		
Magnesium	ppm	NS	10.0-16.0	15.0		
Methiocarb	ppm	NS	<0.2	<0.2		
Phosphate	ppm	NS	0.97-1.54	1.28		
Potassium	ppm	NS	2.2-4.1	3.6		
Silica	ppm	NS	6-17	16		
Sodium	ppm	NS	36-74	65		
Total Ammonia	ppm	NS	0.44-0.61	0.54		
UV - 254	ABS	NS	0.031-0.062	0.048		
Vanadium	ppm	NS	0.004	0.004		

### NOTES:

- (1) All results met State and Federal drinking water regulations.
- (2) Turbidity is the water clarity indicator; it also indicates the quality of the water and the treatment system efficiency.
- (3) The turbidity standard for unfiltered supplies is 5 NTU.
- (4) Results are based on monthly average turbidities measured at Tesla Portal.
- (5) Turbidity is measured every four hours. This is a single measurement result. Higher turbidities occurred in the Hetch Hetchy system in January 2004 while returning the Hetch Hetchy water supply to service, but the water was not served to customers.
- (6) For filtered supplies, two turbidity standards apply. These are: turbidity should be less than 0.3 NTU at least 95% of the time and 1 NTU maximum.
- (7) The reported data is the minimum percent of time that the filtered water has turbidity less than 0.3 NTU.

- (8) DHS has approved SFPUC's request for a waiver of 35 additional synthetic organic chemicals.
- (9) Total Organic Carbon is a precursor for disinfection byproducts formation. SFPUC data obtained from Sunol Valley, and SCVWD data from Penencia and Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plants.
- (10) The SFPUC data are source water fluoride levels obtained from Hetch Hetchy, Calaveras and San Antonio Reservoirs. SCVWD data are treated water fluoride levels from Penitencia and Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plants.
- (11) Water quality data in SFPUC transmission system.
- (12) Water quality data in SCVWD transmission system. The range for SCVWD data is based on range of test results at Penitencia and Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plants. The 'average' is the higher of the two averages from these two plants.
- (13) City of Milpitas data is from City's water distribution system.

- (14) The current standard is 80 ppb, but Milpitas was granted an extension of the 100 ppb standard until SFPUC completed improvements. Milpitas was required to meet the 80 ppb standard by December 2004.
- (15) The reported data is the highest running annual average and met the extended 100 ppb standard. The running annual average was below the revised MCL of 80 ppb by December 2004. For details, see discussion under Trihalomethanes.
- (16) The reported data is the highest running annual average.
- (17) Of the 37 sites selected for lead and copper monitoring, 28 were in the SFPUC service area and the remaining 9 in SCVWD service area.
- (18) The 90th percentile level of lead or copper must be less than the AL.
- (19) The highest lead level, 15 ppb was detected at only one site. This was not considered to exceed the AL of 15 ppb.



# Give Your Home A Check Up!

The FREE Water Wise House Call will help you learn how to efficiently manage your water use, both indoor and outdoor. Trained surveyors will come to a resident's home and check toilets for leaks, offer water-wise landscaping tips, install free shower-

heads and faucet aerators, check irrigation system efficiency, and review past water use patterns. House Calls are available Monday – Saturday

during daylight hours.

Get started today! Call ConserVision at (800) 548-1882 to arrange an appointment.



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## Water Quality

### Fluoridation

San Francisco and many of its suburban water customers (about 80% of all those receiving SFPUC water) have fluoridated their drinking water for many years to protect dental health. With the passage of State Assembly Bill 733 in 1995 and Senate Bill 96 requiring fluoridation, some consumers have asked when fluoridation in Milpitas will begin. Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter. Optimal amounts of fluoride help reduce tooth decay. Fluoridation adjusts the naturally occurring fluoride in drinking water to the ideal level for protecting teeth.

Currently the water supplied by the SFPUC to Milpitas

is not fluoridated, but if you reside in the SFPUC service area (see map on Pg. 2), you will receive fluoridated water beginning September 2005, when the SFPUC will

fluoridate the drinking water of its entire suburban wholesale service area. Once drinking water is fluoridated, prescription fluoride supplements are no longer necessary. Additional information will be provided as we get closer to the planned conversion date in September 2005.

For information about fluoride, visit the City of Milpitas website, or visit the SFPUC website at [www.sfwater.org/fluoride](http://www.sfwater.org/fluoride). Local county health departments are also a good source of information about fluoride. Here are some

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## Water Pollution

also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the DHS prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DHS regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the

same protection for public health.

### What Else Should I Know?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or on USEPA's Web site [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).

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## Water Quality

phone numbers you may call:

- City of Milpitas  
(408) 586-3077
- SFPUC Fluoride  
Information Line  
(866) 668-6008
- County of Santa Clara  
Health Department  
(408) 885-3980

### Hydrant and Water Main Flushing

You may have noticed City crews flushing fire hydrants in your neighborhood. Although it may appear to waste water, flushing is part of a routine maintenance program necessary to remove sediment from lines and keep the entire distribution system refreshed. City crews maintain nearly 200 miles of water lines and more than 1,890 fire hydrants throughout the City.

As a result of the flushing procedure, residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience temporary discoloration of their water. This discoloration consists of harmless precipitates and does not affect the safety of the water. If you experience discoloration in your water after crews have been flushing in your neighborhood, clear the water from your home pipes by running water faucets for a few minutes.

### The New Wave – Recycled Water

Using recycled water instead of potable water for irrigation and industrial purposes increases the availability of potable water. In the past, Santa Clara County retailers have mandated water conservation measures to address shortages due to drought conditions. One of the biggest advantages of recycled water is that it remains a reliable supply even during droughts.

Recycled water from the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant undergoes an extensive treatment process including filtration and disinfection. The recycled water is delivered to landscape irrigation and industrial process consumers in San Jose, Santa Clara and Milpitas.

Phase 1 of the recycled water program is complete and currently provides recycled water to about 160 customers in Milpitas. The next phase is nearing completion to provide water to some City parks, schools and industrial areas over the next year. About 20 more large customers



will be switching to the recycled water in the next few years. For more information, please visit South Bay Water Recycling Program's web site at [www.sanjoseca.gov/sbwr](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/sbwr).

### Lead and Copper Testing – Extra Steps to Make Water Safe for Residents

In 1991, the U.S.EPA adopted the Lead and Copper Rule requiring all cities, including Milpitas, to perform lead and copper testing. The City's public water supply system does not have

detectable levels of lead or copper. However, these metals may leach into the water from home plumbing.

The most recent monitoring, conducted in August 2004, showed that both lead and copper 90th percentile levels were below federal standards of 15 ppb for lead and 1300 ppb for copper, although the 90th percentile lead level is still slightly above the Public Health Goal level of 2 ppb (see discussion on Public Health Goals). Since the City complies with standards, DHS has waived the annual monitoring requirements. Instead, the City will monitor lead and copper every three years, with the next monitoring occurring in September 2007.

## How Can I Get Involved?

Regular City of Milpitas Council meetings occur on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 7:00 p.m. and are held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall located at 455 E. Calaveras Boulevard in Milpitas.

City Council Agendas are posted prior to each meeting at City Hall and on the City's web site at [www.ci.Milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.Milpitas.ca.gov)





## Be the Solution to Water Pollution

Ever wonder where that storm drain goes? Unlike indoor plumbing, the storm drain carries water and urban pollution directly to your neighborhood creeks and eventually to the San Francisco Bay without treatment!



Here are a few simple things you can do to prevent pollution of our creeks and Bay:

- Bring household hazardous wastes such as batteries, paints, fluorescent lamps, and used motor oil to your local hazardous waste facilities! Call (408) 299-7300 to make an appointment to dispose of hazardous waste.
- Wash your car on a lawn or gravel driveway. Better yet, use a commercial car wash that recycles water.
- Keep yard wastes, dirt, and trash out of your neighborhood streets and storm drains. Sweep up leaves, dirt, and waste and place in the proper bins for recycling or garbage collection.
- Obey pooper scooper laws! Keep pet waste away from neighborhood streets and storm drains.
- Apply pesticides sparingly. Learn to control pests the less-toxic way. Visit [www.watershedwatch.net](http://www.watershedwatch.net) or call the Water Hotline at (408) 586-2605

For more ways to prevent pollution of Milpitas' creeks and the Bay, call the Water Hotline at (408) 586-2605.

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## Use Water Wisely



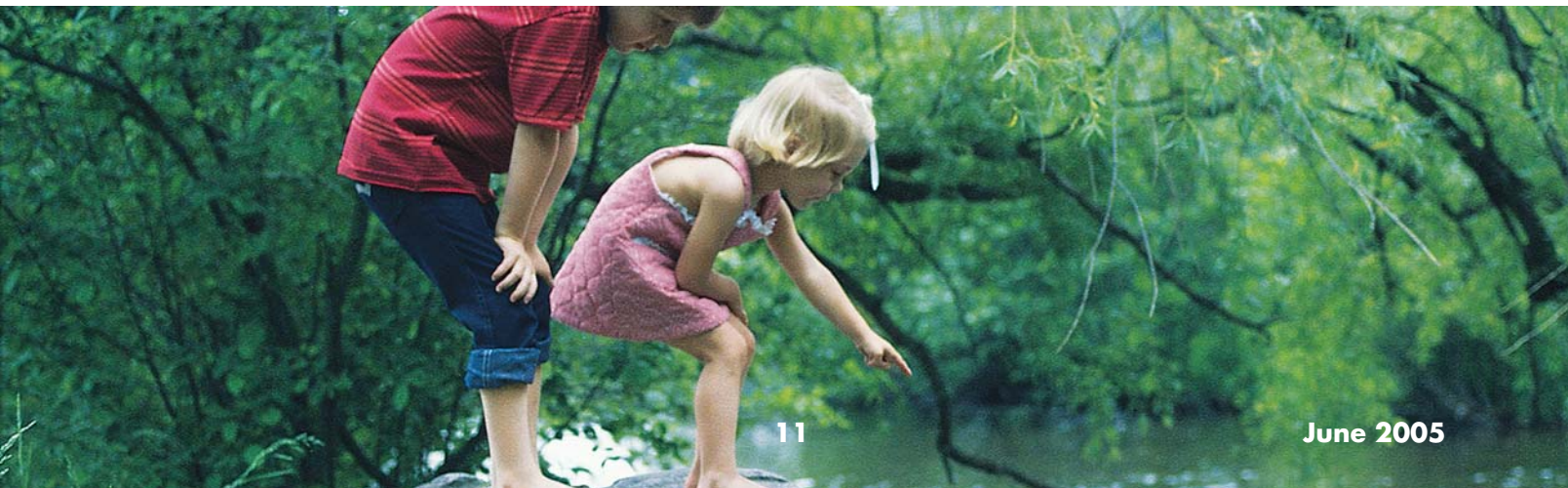
### High Efficiency Toilet Rebates

Older, inefficient toilets installed prior to 1994 are the largest water-guzzling appliance in your home accounting for 30% of the total water used indoors. The Santa Clara Valley Water District is offering a rebate for the replacement of an inefficient toilet with a new High Efficiency toilet. For information on current toilet rebate programs,

please call (408) 586-3077.

### Check for Leaks

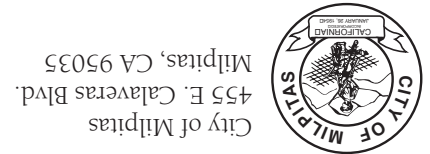
Don't throw your savings down the drain! Use your water meter to check for leaks. First, turn off all faucets and appliances that use water. Next, read your water meter. Wait half an hour, then read your water meter again. If the reading changes, you have a leak and the most likely source is your toilet. A leaking toilet can waste up to 200 gallons per day and that means water and money going down the drain! Test for leaks by putting ten drops of food coloring in the toilet tank. Wait 15 minutes and if the colored water shows up in the toilet bowl, the tank is leaking.



# 2005 Consumer Confidence Report

Postal Customer

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Milpitas, CA  
Permit No. 4



Chi tiết này thật quan trọng.  
Xin nhờ người dịch cho quý vị.  
此份有關你的食水報告,內有重要資料和訊息,請找  
他人為你翻譯及解釋清楚。  
此份有关你的食水报告,內有重要資料和訊息,請找  
他人為你翻譯及解釋清楚。

यह सूचना महत्वपूर्ण है ।  
कृपया कार्ड के किसी से:सका अनुरोध करायें ।

This report contains important information about your drinking  
water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.  
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua  
beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.  
Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

Visit our web site at **[www.ci.Milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.Milpitas.ca.gov)**

To find out more about drinking water treatment,  
quality and regulations visit these home pages on  
the internet:

American Water Works Association  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)  
[www.drinktap.org](http://www.drinktap.org)

California Department of Health Services  
Division of Drinking Water  
And Environmental Management  
[www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem)

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

Santa Clara Valley Water District  
[www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org)

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
[www.sfwater.org](http://www.sfwater.org)

The City of Milpitas is a member of  
American Water Works Association, and the  
Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency.

## At Your Service

**The City of Milpitas is Here for You**

We value our consumers and work hard to ensure service  
and satisfaction. If you have any questions or comments  
about this report, please call the appropriate number below.

Billing Questions	(408) 586-3100
Water Conservation Hotline	(408) 586-2605
Water Emergencies (8-5, M-F)	(408) 586-2600
Water Emergencies (After hours)	(408) 586-2400
Water Quality Questions	(408) 586-3345
EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline	(800) 426-4791